

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 STR-01 EA-06 IO-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

RSC-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /045 R

66610

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STR:AGARLAND

EA/PHL:RWILLNER

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P R 062305Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 2 LINE 2 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE PARTICIPATION IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

COMMITTEE (TNC) MEETING, FEBRUARY 11

REF: MANILA 1466

1. WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY IMPEDIMENT TO PHILIPPINE PARTICIPATION IN FEBRUARY 11 TNC RELATED TO ITS STATUS AS PROVISIONAL ACCEDER TO THE GATT OR OTHERWISE. TNC IS COMPRISED OF GOVERNMENTS--INCLUDING GOP--THAT HAVE FORMALLY INDICATED THEIR INTENTION TO NEGOTIATE. ALTHOUGH MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS (MTN) ARE BEING CONDUCTED UNDER GATT AUSPICES, THEY ARE NOT GATT NEGOTIATIONS. PARTICIPATION IN MTN IS INDEPENDENT OF GATT STATUS; INDEED, MANY MEMBERS OF TNC ARE NOT CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT.

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2. DURING GATT WORKING PARTY EXAMINATION IN JUNE 1973 OF

PHILIPPINE APPLICATION FOR PROVISIONAL ACCESSION TO GATT,
GOP INDICATED INTENTION TO SEEK FULL GATT CONTRACTING
PARTY STATUS IN CONTEXT OF MTN. THIS IS ONLY
CONNECTION WE SEE BETWEEN GATT STATUS OF PHILIPPINES AND
MTN, BUT IT HAS NO BEARING ON PHILIPPINE ACCREDITATION IN
TNC. IT SIMPLY MEANS THAT PHILIPPINE "ENTRANCE FEE"
NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO FULL GATT ACCESSION ARE EXPECTED TO
TAKE PLACE DURING MTN. FYI: DECLARATION ON PHILIPPINE

PROVISIONAL ACCESSION EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 1975. IF BY
THAT TIME GOP HAS NOT CONCLUDED ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS,
IT WOULD APPEAR POSSIBLE FOR GOP TO GAIN EXTENSION OF
TIME LIMIT OF DECLARATION. END FYI.

3. EMBASSY IN ITS DISCRETION MAY CONVEY CONTENTS OF
THIS MESSAGE TO GOP.

4. FOR GENEVA: SUGGEST YOU ASK PHILIPPINE PERMANENT
DELEGATION WHETHER THEY HAVE ENCOUNTERED SPECIAL OBSTACLES
RE PARTICIPATION IN TNC AND REPORT RESPONSE TO WASHINGTON
AND MANILA. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE027802
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/OT/GCP:ELWILLIAMS:JM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750046-0450, D750044-0750
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750265/aaaacgjj.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MANILA 1466
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHILIPPINE PARTICIPATION IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE (TNC) MEETING, FEBRUARY 11
TAGS: ETRD, RP, GATT, TNC-TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE
To: MANILA GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006